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OCT 27 2003

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ImageRCE/2800  
PATENT  
APPLICATION

In re: PATENT APPLICATION of:  
 Inventor(s): David W. Carlson  
 Appln. No.: 09/ 678,414

Group Art Unit 2823  
 Examiner: Brook Kebede  
 Atty. Dkt. 100-13602  
 No.

P04797-C2

Client Ref

Series Code ↑ Serial No. ↑  
 Filed: October 2, 2000  
 Title: Method for Planarizing a Thin Film

Mail Stop RCE  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Commissioner for Patent  
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



R C E

**DO NOT USE FOR PROVISIONAL, DIVISIONAL, CIP  
 OR DESIGN APPLICATIONS, OR REEXAMINATION  
 OF PATENTS**

Date: October 24, 2003

Sir:

**REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) UNDER RULE 114**

Please continue the examination of this application.

**PREREQUISITES**

This application was filed on/after June 8, 1995, is not abandoned, and no court action has been filed, or if filed, it has been terminated.

An issue fee has not been paid (unless a petition under Rule 313(c)(2) is also being filed -- see item 4 below).

**Prosecution has been closed as defined in Rule 114(b).**

**Reply to any outstanding action and Rule 17(e) filing fee must be enclosed**

This application is entitled under Rule 114 to withdrawal of any outstanding finality or of any allowance plus a new action by the Examiner. Consideration on the merits of each submission (e.g., IDS, Amendment, new arguments, new evidence, but not appeal/reply briefs themselves) filed herewith is respectfully requested.

Please consider the following before the next Official Action:

1. Please  enter  do not enter the Amendment filed \_\_\_\_\_
2.  The enclosed Amendment.
3.  Consider the arguments in the appeal brief filed \_\_\_\_\_ and reply brief filed \_\_\_\_\_
4.  The issue fee has been paid, but this RCE is based on Rule 313(c)(2). See enclosed petition.
5.  The enclosed Information Disclosure Statement and Form PTO-1449 (with one reference).
6.  The Enclosed Non-Publish Request.
7.  Please suspend action under Rule 103(c) for a period of   months (3 mos. Max) for which the required \$130 fee is enclosed
8.  A check in the amount of \$880.00 is enclosed of which \$770 is the required RCE filing fee and \$110 for a One Month Extension of Time (Postcard, fee transmittal (with copy) and Petition for Extension of Time (with copy) are also attached.)

(Our Deposit Account No. 502305)

(Atty. Dkt No.) 100-13602 (P04797-C2)

Express Mail No. EV342471370US

**CHARGE STATEMENT:** The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee specifically authorized hereafter, or any missing or insufficient fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith or concerning any paper filed hereafter, and which may be required under Rules 16-18 (missing or insufficiencies only) now or hereafter relative to this application and the resulting Official Document under Rule 20, or credit any overpayment, to our Accounting/Order No. shown above, for which purpose a duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

**This CHARGE STATEMENT does not authorize charge of the issue fee until/unless an issue fee transmittal sheet is filed.**

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